

**Town of Acton**  
**Economic Development Committee**  
**Annual Report to the Town for 2009**

During 2009 the Economic Development Committee, along with Town staff members and others, including the Middlesex West Chamber of Commerce, worked to implement the revisions to the Committee's structure which resulted from the Committee's reorganization plan developed during 2008 and presented to the Board of Selectman in January of 2009.

The plan called for the creation of five "Teams" or subcommittees which were focused on separate challenges. The Teams consist of the following: Research and Demographics, Marketing, Supporting Existing Businesses in Acton, Seeking New Businesses in Acton, and Development. The Committee developed mission statements for each Team and proceeded to successfully launch the first three Teams during the year.

In the meanwhile, the Committee has traditionally served as the place where businesses with proposals which might be placed before the Town can come and share their ideas and solicit suggestions for how best to proceed. That very important activity will continue unabated during 2010 as the Committee expects to have a voice in a number of economic development issues which can be expected to arise during the year.

In addition to the foregoing, the Committee will sometimes become involved where an issue before the town has business overtones or would have the effect of altering our business development environment. This can involve the committee in discussions of zoning, development policy, signage, land use, etc. In those instances, the Committee is expected to coordinate with Town staff as well as other Committees such as the Planning Board. Acton is currently pursuing the next phase of its Master Plan, and the Committee has been tasked with providing information to the Master Plan process.

The Committee's goals for 2010 relate to completing the set up of the first three Teams and the launching of the last two. In addition, the Committee is seeking to deepen its relationship with the Chamber of Commerce and other business related groups in Town so that we can mutually leverage resources and focus attention on matters which will help to enhance the business environment in our Town.

This year the Committee will seek to expand its associate member roster and create permanent seats for its Team captains, but otherwise is not expecting any further restructuring to occur.